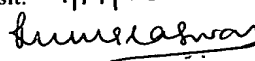


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Qing Deng et al

Examiner: Warren, Matthew E.

Serial No.: 09/840,592

Group Art Unit: 2815

Filing Date: 04/23/2001

Title: Reliability-Enhancing layers for Vertical Cavity Surface Emitting Lasers

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Page 1, line 1, insert the following new paragraph:

(X) This is a Continuation of copending application Serial No. 09/840,592, filed on 4/23/2001, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

In the Claims:

(X) Please delete claims 1-46. Please add the following claims:

47. A vertical cavity surface emitting laser (VCSEL), comprising:

a first mirror stack;

a second mirror stack;

a cavity region disposed between the first mirror stack and the second mirror stack and including an active region;